



# Department of Justice

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Middle District of Florida

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**PALM BAY MAN SENTENCED TO MORE THAN  
19 YEARS ON COCAINE AND FIREARMS CHARGES**

Orlando, Florida - Yesterday, U.S. District Judge John Antoon II sentenced Melvyn Ernest Redhead to a term of imprisonment of 19 years and two months for possession with intent to distribute cocaine and possession of firearms by a previously convicted felon. On April 28, 2008, Redhead was found guilty following a four-day jury trial.

According to court documents and trial testimony, on October 26, 2006, following the execution of a search warrant by the Palm Bay Police Department, Redhead, Mark Aaron Mendez and Edmon Jerome Burton were arrested at a residence rented by Redhead in Palm Bay. During the search, law enforcement officers seized 441.8 grams of powder cocaine, 79.3 grams of "crack" cocaine, including 2.7 grams of "crack" cocaine that was taken from the pocket of Edmon Jerome Burton, and \$4,700 cash. Officers also seized four firearms: a loaded .45 caliber pistol; a loaded .40 caliber semi-automatic pistol; a loaded .357 caliber revolver; and a .233 caliber assault-style rifle. Officers also found marijuana and assorted drug paraphernalia, including digital scales and beakers.

Mark Aaron Mendez pleaded guilty to conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute cocaine and being a convicted felon in possession of firearms on March 6, 2008, and was sentenced to 14 years' imprisonment on December 19, 2008.

Edmon Jerome Burton was found guilty on all of the charges against him following a two-day federal jury trial on June 17, 2008. Burton was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment on September 23, 2008.

The case was investigated by the Palm Bay Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney E. Jackson Boggs, Jr.

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